

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 14 (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method of marking a protective layer of a product at least one of comprised of and including a portion of polymer, said method used to track said product and inhibit at least one of piracy, unauthorized access and unauthorized copying of said product, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) introducing at least one predetermined tracing substance as a predetermined marking in ~~the~~ a polycarbonate material of the polymer of the protective layer of the product in quantities that will not adversely effect at least one of performance, structure of, and the data stored on, the product, the tracing substance being indicative of product information; and

(b) manufacturing the product with the at least one predetermined tracing substance introduced therein in said introducing step (a).

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A system of marking a protective layer of a product at least one of comprised of and including a portion of polymer, said system used to track said product and inhibit at least one of piracy, unauthorized access and unauthorized copying of said product, comprising:

means for introducing at least one predetermined tracing substance as a predetermined marking in ~~the~~ a polycarbonate material of the polymer of the protective layer of the product in quantities that will not adversely effect at least one of performance, structure of, and the data stored on, the product, the tracing substance being indicative of product information; and

means for manufacturing the product with the at least one predetermined tracing substance introduced therein by said means for introducing.

18. (Currently Amended) A system of marking a product at least one of comprised of and including a portion of polymer, said system used to track said product and inhibit at least one of piracy, unauthorized access and unauthorized copying of said product, comprising:

a substance introduction system introducing at least one predetermined tracing substance as a predetermined marking in the a polycarbonate material of the polymer of the product in quantities that will not adversely effect at least one of performance, structure of, and the data stored on, the product, the tracing substance being indicative of product information; and

a product manufacturing system, operatively connected and structurally responsive to said substance introduction system, and manufacturing the product with the at least one predetermined tracing substance introduced therein by said substance introduction system.

Claims 19-23 (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) In a security marking method for marking a polycarbonate-based product to inhibit at least one of piracy, unauthorized access and unauthorized copying of said product, at least one of tracking and authenticating a data message impregnated with at least one predetermined tracing substance providing the security marking used for at least one of tracking and authenticating said data message, the at least one predetermined tracing substance including predetermined concentration amounts of at least an isotope, a plurality of isotopes and a plurality of stable isotopes, and the predetermined tracing substance indicative of product information including at least ~~one~~ two of a lot number, batch number, shipper, recipient, shipping date, manufacturer identity, manufacturing date and designated product purpose.

25. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the at least one tracing substance comprises a transparent oxide of at least one of a silicate, a lead dioxide, tin, cadmium 12 and iridium 5, or a combination thereof.

26. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said introducing step (a) further comprises the step of introducing the at least one predetermined tracing substance as a security marking in the polycarbonate material including predetermined amounts of at least one of an isotope, a plurality of isotopes and a plurality of stable isotopes.

27. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the at least one predetermined tracing substance comprises at least two predetermined tracing substances, and wherein said introducing step (a) further comprises the step of introducing the at least two predetermined tracing substances as a security marking in the polycarbonate material including predetermined concentration amounts of at least one of an isotope, a plurality of isotopes and a plurality of stable isotopes.

28. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising a step of identifying by inspecting the product for the at least one tracing substance for tracking purposes.

29. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising identifying by inspecting the product for the at least one tracing substance including the predetermined amounts of the at least one of the isotope, the plurality of isotopes and the plurality of stable isotopes for tracking purposes.

30. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising a step of identifying by inspecting the product for the at least one tracing substance responsive to a ratio of concentration amounts in said product, for tracking purposes.

31. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said identifying step further comprises using at least one of mass spectrometry, neutron absorption and neutron spectrometry techniques.

32. (New) The system of claim 17, wherein the at least one tracing substance comprises a transparent oxide of at least one of a silicate, a lead dioxide, tin, cadmium 12 and iridium 5, or a combination thereof.

33. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein the at least one tracing substance comprises a transparent oxide of at least one of a silicate, a lead dioxide, tin, cadmium 12 and iridium 5, or a combination thereof.

34. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the at least one tracing substance comprises a transparent oxide of at least one of a silicate, a lead dioxide, tin, cadmium 12 and iridium 5, or a combination thereof.

35. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising a step of identifying by inspecting the product for the at least one tracing substance for tracking purposes.

36. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising identifying by inspecting the product for the at least one tracing substance including the predetermined amounts of the at least one of the isotope, the plurality of isotopes and the plurality of stable isotopes for tracking purposes.

37. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising a step of identifying by inspecting the product for the at least one tracing substance responsive to a ratio of concentration amounts in said product, for tracking purposes.